

OCT 16 2006

Appl. No. 09/653,681  
Amdt. sent October 16, 2006  
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure  
Examining Group 2621

PATENTREMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-21 and 29-32 are pending. The claims have not been amended.

This submission is made in response to an Advisory action from a final Office action of June 2, 2006.

An interview was conducted with the examiner on October 12, 2006, for which the undersigned is appreciative. A discussion was made to explain the pending claims and to discuss the references. It is noted with appreciation that the examiner believes the pending claims distinguish over the references.

To summarize: The claims are directed to "an apparatus for playing back data stored on an information recording medium." The apparatus includes "playback circuitry" comprising elements as recited for example in claim 1.

Figs. 1 and 7 of Koto were cited. Fig. 1 shows both a recording device (video coding system, 100A) and a playback device (video decoding system, 200A). Fig. 7 shows a component of the recording device (100A). Therefore, Fig. 7 cannot be interpreted as showing the recited "playback circuitry" and the recited elements of the playback circuitry because Fig. 7 is a component of recording device (100A).

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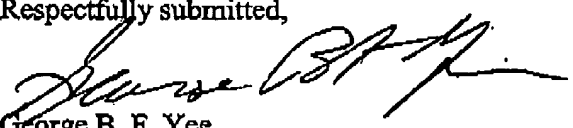
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PATENT

Reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the above remarks is earnestly  
sought.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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